

judicial nominations receive a fair, up-or-down vote and, therefore, to allow this great legislative body to carry out its constitutional duty of advice and consent—a responsibility that we, as Senators, have been duly elected to uphold by the American people.

There is a little housekeeping we might do before my good friend, the Senator from Wisconsin, chooses to speak. I thank the Senator for that.

I ask unanimous consent I be permitted to speak as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, in accordance with 22 U.S.C. 1928a-1928b, as amended, appoints the following Senator as Acting Vice Chairman to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly for the spring meeting in Ljubjana, Slovenia, May 2005: the Honorable PATRICK LEAHY of Vermont.

WELCOMING HIS EXCELLENCY HAMID KARZAI, THE PRESIDENT OF AFGHANISTAN

Mr. BURNS. I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to consideration of S. Res. 152, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 152) welcoming His Excellency Hamid Karzai, the President of Afghanistan, and expressing support for a strong enduring strategic partnership between the United States and Afghanistan.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BURNS. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 152) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follow:

S. RES. 152

Whereas Afghanistan has suffered the ravages of war, foreign occupation, and oppression;

Whereas following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the United States launched Operation Enduring Freedom, which helped to establish an environment in which the people of Afghanistan are building the foundations for a democratic government;

Whereas, on January 4, 2004, the Constitutional Loya Jirga of Afghanistan adopted a constitution that provides for equal rights for full participation of women, mandates full compliance with international norms for human and civil rights, establishes procedures for free and fair elections, creates a system of checks and balances between the

executive, legislative, and judicial branches, encourages a free market economy and private enterprise, and obligates the state to prevent terrorist activity and the production and trafficking of narcotics;

Whereas, on October 9, 2004, approximately 8,400,000 Afghans, including nearly 3,500,000 women, voted in Afghanistan's first direct Presidential election at the national level, demonstrating commitment to democracy, courage in the face of threats of violence, and a deep sense of civic responsibility;

Whereas, on December 7, 2004, Hamid Karzai took the oath of office as the first democratically elected President in the history of Afghanistan;

Whereas nationwide parliamentary elections are planned in Afghanistan for September 2005, further demonstrating the Afghan people's will to live in a democratic state, and the commitment of the Government of Afghanistan to democratic norms;

Whereas the Government of Afghanistan is committed to halting the cultivation and trafficking of narcotics and has pursued, in cooperation with the United States and its allies, a wide range of counter-narcotics initiatives;

Whereas the United States and the international community are working to assist Afghanistan's counter-narcotics campaign by supporting programs to provide alternative livelihoods for farmers, sustainable economic development, and capable Afghan security forces; and

Whereas, on March 17, 2005, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said of Afghanistan "this country was once a source of terrorism; it is now a steadfast fighter against terrorism. There could be no better story than the story of Afghanistan in the last several years and there can be no better story than the story of American and Afghan friendship. It is a story of cooperation and friendship that will continue. We have a long-term commitment to this country": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) welcomes, as an honored guest and valued friend of the United States, President Hamid Karzai on the occasion of his visit to the United States as the first democratically elected President of Afghanistan scheduled for May 21 through 25, 2005;

(2) supports a democratic, stable, and prosperous Afghanistan as essential to the security of the United States; and

(3) supports a strong and enduring strategic partnership between the United States and Afghanistan as a primary objective of both countries to advance their shared vision of peace, freedom, security and broad-based economic development in Afghanistan, the broader South Asia region, and throughout the world.

STATE CRIMINAL ALIEN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2005

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to immediate consideration of Calendar No. 56, S. 188.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 188) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2005 through 2011 to carry out the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. BURNS. I ask unanimous consent the Feinstein amendment at the desk be agreed to, the bill as amended be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 763) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To require that certain funds are used for correctional purposes)

At the end add the following new section:

SEC. 3. LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.

Section 241(i)(6) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1231(i)(6)) is amended to read as follows:

"(6) Amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in paragraph (5) that are distributed to a State or political subdivision of a State, including a municipality, may be used only for correctional purposes."

The bill (S. 188), as amended, was read the third time and passed, as follows:

S. 188

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "State Criminal Alien Assistance Program Reauthorization Act of 2005".

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2005 THROUGH 2011.

Section 241(i)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1231(i)(5)) is amended by striking "appropriated" and all that follows through the period and inserting the following: "appropriated to carry out this subsection—

"(A) such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2005;

"(B) \$750,000,000 for fiscal year 2006;

"(C) \$850,000,000 for fiscal year 2007; and

"(D) \$950,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011."

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ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. BURNS. I ask unanimous consent that the majority leader be recognized at 5:30 p.m. today; provided further that from 6 to 7 this evening be under the control of the majority leader or his designee, that from 7 to 8 p.m. be under the Democratic control, with time continuing to rotate in that fashion until 9 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BURNS. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair will note the minority now controls 41 minutes.

The Senator from Wisconsin.